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5 PROCESS FOR OBTAINING QUINAPRIL HYDROCHLORIDE AND SOLVATES
 USEFUL FOR THE ISOLATION AND PURIFICATION OF QUINAPRIL
 HYDROCHLORIDE

10 The process for obtaining quinapril hydrochloride (I) comprises the stages of: a) hydrogenolysis of the benzyl ester of quinapril (II) by treatment in an alcoholic solvent, with concentrated hydrochloric acid or a solution of hydrogen chloride in isopropanol, and hydrogenation; b) removal of the solvent; c) addition of toluene to precipitate the quinapril hydrochloride as a toluene solvate; d) treatment of said solvate with a Class 3 solvent which forms a solvate of quinapril hydrochloride from which it can be removed by drying without degrading; and e) drying of the solvate from step d) to yield quinapril hydrochloride (I), an antihypertensive agent.

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